

CoNect
449 South 90th Street
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CoNect Direct

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Unfortunately, we are losing a few more

CoCoPro! is going to be closing up shop soon. This marks the end of another chapter in the history of the Color Computer. I know many of you, like me, have depended on Dave Myers for your CoCo needs, and will miss the monthly catalog.

CoCoPro isn't planning on taking the money and running, though. Dave's came up with a nifty idea. He's placed the software he owns on sale, as you'd expect, but added a real kicker- if enough people buy \$30 worth of CoCoPro produced software, all of it will be made 'shareware'. Meaning you can download a free copy, and if you like it, send a few dollars to the author. Those without modems can get the software on disk for a very reasonable fee.

In a related incident, Frank Hogg Labs has announced it is dropping support for 6809 based machines. FHL will continue to sell and support machines based on the 68xxx cpu's.

Sources:

The Second Last Annual CoCoFest is a definite go! This year, the Glenside Color Computer Club is sponsoring the event. We'd like to encourage everyone who can to attend. At this late date, an 'off' year could spell the death of the Chicago CoCoFest!

The fest has moved just up the road to the Holiday Inn Elgin. This is one of those fancy 'Holidome' indoor recreation centers, yet the CoCoFest room rate is only \$52 per nite (plus 10% tax). Be sure to ask for the Glenside or CoCoFest rate when placing your reservation (1-708-695-5000).

The one day pass is gone. Instead, two day passes cost only \$10.00 at the door, or \$8.50 advance purchase (You can throw in a SASE and save 50 cents). Contact

George Schneeweiss, Treasurer
Glenside Color Computer Club
RR #2 Box 67
Forrest, IL 61741-9629

For the latest information, or to exhibit at the 'fest, contact:

Tony Podraza (president, GCCC) (708)428-3576(voice) (708)428-0436(mbs)

DisCoNected:

Those of you who have ordered Mouse Tamers recently know that we have fallen far behind on delivery. This one product has been beset by every imaginable problem, and I have been reduced to labouriously hand etching each board. Accordingly, this product is going on hiatus for awhile. Once we catch up on past orders, the Mouse Tamer will be reintroduced.

Serially Speaking:

Another product has temporarily vanished from the catalog, but this time it's good news! Our old dual 6551 based design is soon to be replaced by one using a National 16553. The 'CoCo10' card delivers 2 serial ports, as well as a bidirectional parallel port.

But that's the boring part. Let's talk performance. The prototype version (single serial only) has been able to establish and maintain a 57,600 bps connection. Throughput exceeds 1200 characters per second!

Perhaps more impressive than the raw speed is how little 'drag' it places on the rest of the CoCo. This was tested by running a math intensive program in a separate window, while downloading a file. Using stock drivers and serial port, a 9600bps download stretched the runtime from 30 to 74 seconds, while CoCo10 only took on 9 seconds.

How? FIFO! Every CoCo serial port to date has used a 6551 chip. It's not a bad old chip, but it only stores a single character internally. Then it sends an interrupt to the CoCo, which drops everything to go get that one character. The National chip is much easier on the CoCo's limited cpu speed. It receives up to 14 bytes before bothering the 6809 with an interrupt.

The original release drivers, by Randy Wilson, will run both serial ports in FIFO mode, and use the parallel port as an XT/AT compatible printer port. The hardware, however, will be wired from the start to allow full use of the parallel port as a bi-directional, FIFO buffered, irq driven device. If anyone ever comes with some neat hard drive or floppy drivers, a software upgrade should be all that's required!

So that's what I've been doing the last two months:-)

Ricku

Color Computer Hardware

CoNect Mini RS232 Port: Don't let the name fool you! This is a full featured serial port, supporting the signals needed for flow control as well as the basic 4. Jumper blocks allow readdressing, or swapping DSR/DCD. No custom cables or hardware widgets needed here! **Only \$49.95** (Y cable systems require power supply, add \$95)

CoNect Y Box: Anyone whos owned a CoCo for more than a few days knows how touchy it's expansion buss can be. Although Y cables do allow low buget buss expansion, the average hunk of ribbon cable with a few connectors on it doesn't help reliability any. Enter the Y Box! Helps support add on packs, without resting on desktop itself. Powered version can supply +/-12volts to those Paks that can't live without!

The Y Box \$29.95

Power Y \$39.95

CoNect XPander: Don't you think the CoCo would be alot nicer without all that mess hanging off the right side? Of course it would! Our XPander allows mounting two /SCS driven devices (like a floppy and hard drive controller) inside your CoCo, as well as a fully decoded card into the ROMPort. Or, you can configure the ROMPort to disable the internal hardware, and run ROMs. Built in no-slot RS232 Port is similar to our 'Mini'-described above. The CoCo does have to be reassembled into a new lower case half, but there is no soldering required to get the XPander up and running. **Now Only \$119.95**

CoNect Custom Cables: If you don't see the cable you need, just ask!

RS232: Six feet in length. Select from the following options:

CPUside: DB25, DB9, CoCo 4 pin 'bitbanger'

Modemside: DB25 or DB9

Inside: normal, null modem, DCD/DSR swap

Any Style \$9.95

Disk Drive Power Converter- specify size of connectors needed **\$5.95**

Hitachification: CoNect will install a Hitachi 6309 cpu (and socket) into your CoCo3. Machine **must** be in working condition! The 6809 is returned as spare or ??? 90 day limited warranty. **Chip and Installation Only \$29.95**

Color Computer Hardware

Tandy CM8 Monitor: Gently used analog RGB. Price includes added shipping cost and tons of free styrofoam peanuts! **One unit only \$145.00**

Color Computer Three: Brand new, in the box 128K CoCo's, with the manuals and even that dumb little TV/Game switch! **Only a few left at \$99.95**

RS Color Mouse: The 'official' little black mouse with the big red button. Not a bad piece of hardware, actually- except for the missing second fire button. Works with anyones hi-res interface, or straight into the CoCo. **Now \$12.95**

Tandy DMP105 Printer: Long lived 9 pin dot matrix 'draft' quality printer. This unit looks to have a few years left! **Last One \$64.95**

Tandy Joysticks: A pair of cheap full-floating joysticks at a cheap price. Single fire button. Suitable for most apps, some games. **Pair for \$3.95**

Tandy Orchestra-90cc: Good sounding four voice sterio synth with additional percussion voice. (The drums are at best fair). If this pak understood Midi, it would cost \$100! **New \$14.95 Used \$9.95**

Tandy Speech/Sound: No manuals on these used Speech Paks, but they all work fine on a CoCo3. **Used \$24.95**

Orphan²: Used Hardware that needs a home!

ModemPort: Marty's ModemPak to RS232 Conversion. 2400bps or slower. **\$24.95**

ModemPak: A Tandy ModemPak without ROM. Runs any software, even OS9. Lv12 stuff, through the built in 300 baud modem (requires at least a Y cable). **\$24.95**

FD500 Drive Case/PS: Perfectly usable full height floppy case and power supply, with data/power cables for 2 half height drives. Definately not sexy! Case is made to stand vertically, but I won't tell if you lay it on it's side -) **\$34.95**

MC10 Ram Upgrade: 16K by 8 static RAM, all in a neat little box. **\$9.95**

Cassette Interface: For the PCx 'pocket computers'. New in box. **\$14.95**

Disk Extended Color Basic

Games

Dallas Quest: J.R. and they gang still live in this disk based graphic adventure from DataSoft. No color on RGB systems. **Used \$9.95**

FlightSim1: The ancient CoCo2 'night flight' simulator. **Used \$3.95**

Ghanabwana: Early Steve Bjork arcade game. RGB patch. **New \$4.95**

One on One: Who says Larry Bird is gone? Not a Bird fan? OK, meet Dr. J! 2 player or challenge the CoCo RGB patch. **New \$8.95**

Pitfall 2: Fairly challenging dodge the meanies maze game from Activision. RGB color patch. **Used \$4.95**

Sands of Egypt: Graphic adventure from DataSoft. Difficult for beginning mapmakers to get started- expect to wander thought the desert a bit! **Used \$9.95**

Applications

Color Profile: Disk based CoCo2 database program. **Used \$19.95**

Disk EDTASM: 6809 assembler/editor/debug 80col patch. **Used \$22.95**

Graphicom: CoCo2 drawing program from Chesire Cat Software. **Used \$9.95**

Investograph: Investment analysis for the CoCo2. Can download data directly from CompuServ or Dow Jones. **Used \$8.95**

Max-10: ColorWare's excellent followup to CoCoMax! Beautiful WYSIWYG word processor. Later version, can use Tandy HiRes. Only 2 in stock! **Used \$22.95**

Telewriter 64: Still the ultimate CoCo2 word processor. **Used \$16.95**

RomPaks

Arkanoid: Breakout type 'smash the wall' game from Taito. Separate versions for CoCo2 or 3 in the SAME RomPak! **New \$5.95**

Castle of Tharrogad: Update of the old Dungeons of Daggorith game for the CoCo3. Mouse control, saves game without cassette! **Used \$4.95**

Color File 2: Tape based CoCo filing system. **New \$3.95**

Color Scripsit 2: Tape based word processor for CoCo2 or 3. 38x24 display on the CoCo3! **New \$4.95**

Dungeons of Daggorith: A CoCo classic! Basically a room maze with added complications, like meanies and tourches that keep going out. Games save to tape. **New \$6.95**

GFL Football: Single player football game with unique players POV window, as well as the traditional overhead. Many teams of various abilities to choose from. Some of them can really challenge your coaching skills! **New \$4.95**

Shanghai: Mah Jongg on the CoCo3! Very addictive! **New \$6.95**

Thexder: 'Old fashioned' Nintendo style shoot 'em up. **New \$4.95**

OS9

- Level One:** DOS and assembler for CoCo1 or 2 *New \$39.95*
Level One v1.1: Upgrade to Level 1 (Lv11 required) *Used \$14.95*
Level Two: DOS and Basic09 for the CoCo3. *New \$39.95*
MultiVue: GUI for Level 2 systems. Includes the WindInt module (replacement for stock grfint and required by some programs) *New \$22.95*
DevPak: Completes Level Two. RMA assembler, tsmon, scrd, more *Used \$39.95*
PatchOS9: Every public domain patch I could find, and a nifty auto-install program (auto requires 2 d.s. disk drives, request s.s. disks if needed) *New \$3.95*
- Basic09:** Why did they leave Basic out of the Level 1 package? *Used \$14.95*
C compiler: Only 2 copies, so you must call CoNect (evenings and weekends) to reserve one. They'll vanish fast. *Used \$59.95*
D.L. Logo: Excellent learning language. It even talks! (S/S support) *Used \$19.95*
Pascal: ISO Standard 7185.1 Level0 compiler. *Used \$39.95*

OS9 Applications

- Color Computer Artist:** Window based graphics program can output OS9 window format files- just merge into window for instant graphics! Nice mouse/monitor setup utility included. *New \$5.95*
DeskMate: CoCo2 Calendar, Text Editor, Index Cards, Paint, Ledger, and Telecom. *New \$12.95*
DynaCalc: Best spreadsheet available for CoCo/OS9. 80 col in Lv12. Many cell format options. Sorts. Windows. Sticky titles. Trig. Lookup tables. More! *New \$34.95*
Home Publisher: Desktop publishing for the CC3. Could be faster, but worth 12 bucks. *New \$11.95*
Phantomgraph: Tons of ways to see numbers! Line, bar, pie, and scatter. Explode, stack, or color 'em in! Can import Dynacalc or Sylk files. *New \$19.95*
Screen Dump Utility: Dumps Lv11 screens to printer. *Used \$4.95*
T/S Edit: Full screen text editor. Both OS9 and DECB versions inc. *Used \$9.95*
T/S Spell: Use with any OS9 text editor. 100K word dictionary *Used \$9.95*

OS9 Games

- Flight Simulator 2:** Very impressive simulation from Sublogic. This is the same as the MicroSoft Flight Simulator available for IBM- clouds, wind, radio navigation, even mechanical failures of the aircraft are emulated. *Used \$12.95*
- Interbank Incident:** Mouse driven CoCo2 adventure runs on CoCo3, but loses color. It even speaks (with S/S Pak) *New \$12.95*
- King's Quest 3:** The ultimate CoCo3 adventure from Sierra. The graphics have to be seen to be believed! *New \$17.95*
- Koronis Rift:** Arcade/Adventure game for CoCo3. You'll need those lightning fast reflexes and your brain to finish this one! *New \$7.95*
- Microscopic Mission:** Save the patient while battling the deadliest enemy of all, the human body! But watch out, you might learn some anatomy. *New \$9.95*
- Rescue on Fractalus:** Shoot the bad guys. Save the good guys. Enjoy the graphics. *New \$7.95*
- Rogue:** This maze adventure has been around for ages! Originally a text game, it depends on interesting play, instead of flashy graphics. This release runs either the original text version, or an icon based gfx version that eases play. *New \$8.95*
- Sub Battle Simulator:** A thorough simulation of American or German WW2 era submarines. *New \$10.95*
- Zone Runner:** Adventure in interstellar commerce. *New \$6.95*

School's In!

Color Math: Tape based arithmetic drill, covering the basic 4 Copy on disk saves dragging out the old tape recorder. **New \$4.95**

D.L. Logo: Good introduction language to computer programming. From simple turtle graphics to fairly complex math and logic structures. **Used \$19.95**

Donald Duck's Playground: This Disney Learning game teaches logical thinking, matching skills, and money changing. Ages 7 to 11 **New \$9.95**

Mickey's Space Adventure: Teaches mapping, problem solving, and planetary science the Disney way. For ages 8 and up. **New \$9.95**

Microscopic Mission: Introduction to almost any medical speciality you can think of. Everything from microbiology to lifestyles as disease prevention **New \$9.95**

Rocky's Boots: Teaches the fundamental concepts of computers and digital logic. Widely acclaimed program from the Learning Company, for ages 9 and up **Used \$9.95**

Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?: This has to be the most enjoyable geography lesson I've ever seen! **New \$9.95**

Winnie the Pooh in the Hundred Acre Wood: Teaches map reading and logical thinking. Ages 7 and up **New \$9.95**

Bookshelf

Basic09 Tour Guide: If you are interested in learning Basic09, this is the book for you! By Dale Puckett. **New \$9.95**

Beginner's Guide to Windows: Covering the Level Two windowing system, graphics, and usage with Basic09. The first (and only) of a promised two volume set from Mssrs. Plucket and Dribble stands alone nicely. **New \$5.95**

Color Computer Assembly Language Programming: The Bill Barden classic covers the 6809 and interfacing to the DECB rom. Predates the CoCo3, but still an excellent primer to 6809 assy. **New \$5.95**

About CoNect

The trend is growing! CoCo suppliers are dropping faster than support from Radio Shack. Most of the ones left carry only a few items, with occasional lots of surplus goods sold at blowout prices.

Like most remaining vendors, CoNect has a few items we manufacture, and while they provide most of our income, we want to do something more for the community. To this end, we attempt to stock everything. Every dollar CoNect takes in (and a few more) goes into purchase of formerly common items like CoCo's, disk controllers, software, and other CoCo-specific goods.

Our pricing reflects our determination to remain in the market. If you find somebody blowing out DynaCalc's for \$5, by all means buy one. But rest assured that long after those 2 dozen units are gone, CoNect will still be selling them, as well as replacement CoCo's and ports and mice and....

Ordering Info:

Our mailing address is:

CoNect
449 South 90th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53214

Or call (414) 258-2989 evenings and weekends. Else, leave EMail on Delphi (RICKULAND) or Internet (rickuland@delphi.com)

We accept personal checks or money orders. Sorry, no plastic yet. All orders please include **\$4.00 shipping and handling**. Larger items will have the additional shipping cost included in the price!

Legal Stuff:

All hardware manufactured by CoNect carries a 90 day limited warranty. Used hardware has been tested, unfortunately, we can't guarantee anything more than it will work when you receive it.

Software that doesn't boot will be repaired or replaced at our option. What this means is, anything we have (or can get) more of will be replaced with a new copy. Used or surplus software will be restored from our master copy.

Wanted, Dead or Alive!

CoNect is interested in buying your old Color Computer or 'KMA' (TC70, MM/1, SystemIV) hardware or software, working or not. Software must include the original disk, even if it doesn't boot. In fact, we often don't care if you even have a working copy! We are after that original disk, manual, and license:-)

We are also interested in your original software packages or hardware designs. CoNect can assist in production, and pays competitive royalties for each unit sold.